68TH YEAR.

RICHMOND, VA., SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6, 1918. -FIFTY-FOUR PAGES.

WEATHER -FAIR

PRICE, SEVEN CENTS

PRINCE MAX ASKS ARMISTICE

HOURS OF TERROR AS FLAMES NEARED DREAD EXPLOSIVES Schools, Churches and Theaters Indomitable Secretary of Interior

Barges Laden With "T N T" Menaced Entire New York City Section.

PERTH AMBOY'S DEATH LIST IS NOT YET ASCERTAINED

May Number Hundreds, as Many of Gillespie Employees Are Not Accounted For.

PROPERTY LOSS OF \$20,000,000

Fearing Catastrophe, New York Has Closed Fubways and Brooklyn Bridge Temporarily.

The explosions of thousands of shells loaded with high explosives, and the majority of large caliber, has destroyed \$12,000,000 worth of property at the plant and \$5,000,000 in government ammunition. It has rendered thousands homeless. It has practically depopulated this place of civilians. It has overcrowded hospitals with wounded.

of being reached by the s explosion had been ex-fears were entertained by crumble in heaps of ruins Amboy, a town four miles Morgan, having a population by was virtually wrecked by s of blasts.

of 19,000, was making a population of 19,000, was making a population of 19,000, was missing a population of 19,000 was missing to the population of the series of the series and to the series of the densate continued. This will include of the control of the control

EPIDEMIC FORCES DRASTIC ACTION

Closed by Order of City Health Officer.

Some Churches to Hold Out- Over \$10,000,000 of Fourth Issue door Services Morning

At the request of City Health Officer Roy K. Flannagan, to control the epidemic of Spanish influenza which has struck its stride in Richmond, the city

PERTH AMBOY, N. J., October 5.—
Twelve square miles of territory, which had been the scene of one of the busiest of the nation's war activities, to-night bears a close resemblance to an enormous battle field torn by German shells and devastated as retreating Germans have laid waste French lands. The great shell-loading plant of the T. A. Gillespie Co., at Morgan Station, near here, has been practically destroyed in a series of explosions not exceeded probably on any battle field.

The toll of lives lost, known to be fourteen, may run into the hundreds. The explosions of thousands of shells loaded with high explosives, and the majority of large caliber, has destroyed \$12,000,000 worth of property at the plant and \$5,000,000 in govern-

LANE NOT STOPPED BY FAINTING SPELL

Finishes Liberty Loan Ad dress After Collapse.

2,000 CASES ARE REPORTED CITY RAISES HALF OF QUOTA

Taken by Yesterday and Night.

Just as he was launching into his officials have ordered the closing of Lane, speaking before more than 5. all churches, public and private schools, 000 people in Capitol Square yestertheaters, motion picture houses, dance day afternoon, collapsed and fell unhalls, poolrooms, side shows in fact, conscious to the floor of the platform. all indoor public gatherings. The order He was revived in a few minutes, and, goes into effect this morning at 6 exemplifying that unbeatable Amerio'clock. The ruling however, leaves the doors open to the State Fair to be held here this week.

With 2,000 cases of the disease developed here in the last few days, several hundred new cases being reported daily and five deaths yesterday, in addition to the previous victims, the State Board of Health, through its commissioner, Dr. Ennion G. Williams, Friday recommended the closing of public gathering halls with the exception of schools. He advocated keeping schools open for educational reasons, as well as regarding it a panicky extermity, since the school buildings are well ventilated, with not more than half the pupils in attendance.

Dr. Flannagan took the position that all schools should be closed on the grounds of public policy, even though o'clock. The ruling however, leaves can spirit of which he had been speak-

will return from France

Dr. Solf Is Reported Named Foreign Minister

AMSTERDAM, October 5.—Dr. W. S. Solf, German Colonial Secretary, has been appointed Foreign Minister to succeed Admiral von Hintze, necording to late dispatches from Berlin to-day.

The appointment, it is believed, was made after Prince Max of Baden had made the gence offer to the allies, the prince at that time combining the duties of both the Chancellorship and the office of Foreign Minister.

Dr. Solf is generally known as a moderate. He recently promised the restitution of Belgium as an independent state. In later utterances he gave vent to liberal ideas, but insisted that Germany must have back all her colonics.

OVER 17,000 NEW CASES OF INFLUENZA REPORTED

Malady Reaches Threatening Proportions in Middle West, and Approaches Pacific Coast.

to France and Production of War Munitions.

WASHINGTON, October 5 .- Sweeping vestward with increasing rapidity, the influenza epidemic in the past twentyfour hours claimed the heaviest toil of victims and deaths among the Ameri-can troops in army camps and stations that has yet been recorded in a single

day.

The number of new cases of influenza reached the high total of 17,383. This shows an increase of nearly 5,000 more than reported for the previous twenty-four hours. The new cases of pneumonia numbered 2,141, whereas the figures for the day before were 1,854.

riod since the against at the office of the surgeon-general further indicate that the malady already has developed most threatening proportions in the Middle West, and is rapidly approaching the Pacific Coast.

FRANCO-AMERICANS HIT GERMANS HARD

Pershing's Men Engaged in Heavy Fighting Between Rheims and Meuse.

DOUAL SET ON FIRE BY ENEMY

United States Soldiers Rapidly Closing Eastern Entrance to Grand Pre Gap.

The American troops in the sector between Rheims and the Meuse are engaged in extremely heavy fighting. Joined up with Gouraud's army, they are driving the Germans before them at a quickening pace. French troops are reported to have reached Betheniville, which is several miles beyond

In the north, under the menace of the British pressure from Flanders to the North of St. Quentin, the enemy has set fire to Douai and other towns and villages in that area, evidently in Government Determined to Prevent preparation for a retirement to the Interruption in Shipment of Troops French frontier. Heavy explosions also have been heard.

with the French covering the western outlet of the Grand Pre gap through the Argonne forest, the Americans in an advance of three miles between the Meuse and the Aire are rapidly closing up the eastern entrance to the pass. General Pershing's men, in smashing blows Saturday, realized a considerable advance all along the front and took additional villages and heights from the Germans. The enemy resistance was most stubborn, as on this front the Germans are standing on the Kreimhilde line, the last of the prepared defenses. The Americans are advancing toward Sedan and the great communication line upon which German security on the present front depends. This important railway is only eighteen miles from the American front.

AMERICANS HAVE REACHED

On both sides of the Suippe the American and French troops under General Gouraud rapidly are driving the Germans from the heights domin-ating the Champagne region east of Rheims. The Germans are retiring to the River Arnes, but the Americans already have reached that stream at St. Etienne. Northwest of Rheims, the French have forced several crossings

or the successes of Generals Gouraud and Berhelot.

From St. Quentin north to the Lys on the front before the important bases of Cambral Doual and British and British and the same are endeavoring to hold their positions until the work of devastation in their rear is completed. North of St. Quentin the British have driven further eastward the apes of the salitation in their rear is completed. North of St. Quentin the British have driven further eastward the apes of the salitation in their rear is completed. North of St. Quentin the British have driven further eastward the apes of the salitation in their rear is completed. North of St. Quentin the British have driven further eastward the apes of the salitation in their rear is completed. North of the fourteen points in Presentation in their rear is completed. North of the four points of his speech of the four points of his speech

AMERICANS ADVANCE DESPITE RESISTANCE The Germans throughout the day continued to offer violent resistance to the American advance in the Verdun region, but the Yankees on the left Offer Say Leaders

Offer Say Leaders wing succeeded in pushing forward slightly. MUST PUT CARDS ON TABLE street, west of Gesnes Saturday afternoon. They had been driven from Wisconsin troops recaptured sols de Marines, west of Gesnes Saturday afternoon. They had been driven from the wood last night by heavy counterattacks of the enemy.

ALLIES SUSPECT TREACHERY MUST PUT CARDS ON TABLE CONSIDERATION OF TREACHERY MUST PUT CARDS ON TABLE CARDS ON TA MORE THAN 4,000

GERMAN CHANCELLOR FAVORS JUST PEACE

Austria-Hungary Sends Proposal for General Suspension of Hostilities to President Wilson. Dual Monarchy Reported to Have Accepted All of American Terms - Germany's New Spokesman Said to Have Proposed League of Nations.

A powerful movement is apparently under way in Germany for a general armistice and peace. The new German Chancellor, Prince Maximilian of Baden, is reported to have proposed or to be on the eve of proposing a general suspension of hostilities, the appointment of plenipotentiaries to meet at a neutral place for the discussion of a league for arbitration and disarmament and the forwarding of a request to the entente allies for their terms. It is furthermore reported that the German Chancellor has, expressed his willingness to accept President Wilson's fourteen peace conditions.

his willingness to accept President Wilson's fourteen peace conditions.

Prince Maximilian, in the Reichstag, emphatically declared that the new government stood on the basis of a just peace, regardless of the war situ-

And finally from Bern comes the an-nouncement that Germany, Austria-Hungary and Turkey intend simul-taneously to approach President Wil-son, with the object of having him make representations to the other en-tents alloss for a general armisticate make representations to the other entente allies for a general armistice and negotiations looking to peace. The new peace note of Baron Burian, Austro-Hungarian Foreign Minister, will declare that all of President Wilson's terms have been accepted, according to a Vienna dispatch to the Frankfort Zeitung which is quoted in the Dutch press. The note will be published immediately. the Dutch press. The published immediately.

AUSTRO-HUNGARIAN PEACE

RETURN OF COLONIES

AMSTERDAM, October 5.—Restoration and indemnification of Belgium and autonomy for Alsace-Lorraine are suggested in the peace offer to the allies made by Prince Max of E iden today. The return of all German colonies is demanded.

Prince Max suggests in his note that envoys of the various beligerents be empowered to discuss at a peace conference the creation of a federal state of Austria.

The German note concedes the right of self-determination of the Russian frontier states.

cellor has not yet made the statements credited to him regarding the suspension of hostilities, the appointment of plenipotentiaries and the request for the allies' terms, but that it was understood he would make such proposals

Offer, Say Leaders.

Nations Have Seen the Fruits of Throw Up Sponge, but Must Ex-

state how many of the even were recogned or give any further particulars age, was proceeding to port. A state of the enemy stat

lied Powers.